

Remarks

Independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended to incorporate the limitation of dependent claims 3 and 20 (i.e., a sealing ring within the proximal end of the guide that provides a seal around the endotracheal tube as it is inserted along the guide). Claims 3 and 20 are redundant in light of these amendments, and therefore have been canceled. The sealing ring (in combination with the seal created by the laryngeal mask about the glottis and an endotracheal tube cap) enable simultaneous ventilation and intubation of the patient, which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art cited in the parent application.

Claims 1, 5 - 7, 10, 14, and 16 - 18 have been amended to change references to the "laryngeal inlet" to "glottis." These amendments are for purpose of anatomical clarity, as discussed with the Examiner in the telephonic interview on May 23, 2003.

Claims 6, 16 and 17 have also been amended to conform with amendments to these claims in the parent application.

Claims 23 - 26 were allowed in the parent application, and therefore have been canceled in this continuation application.

With regard to claims 10 - 17, these claims are carried forward from the parent application and contain limitations directed to the shape of the upper and lower portions of the laryngeal mask. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of these claims.

New claims 27 - 39 are also submitted for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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